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1953 OUTLOOK ISSUE
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THE Wool SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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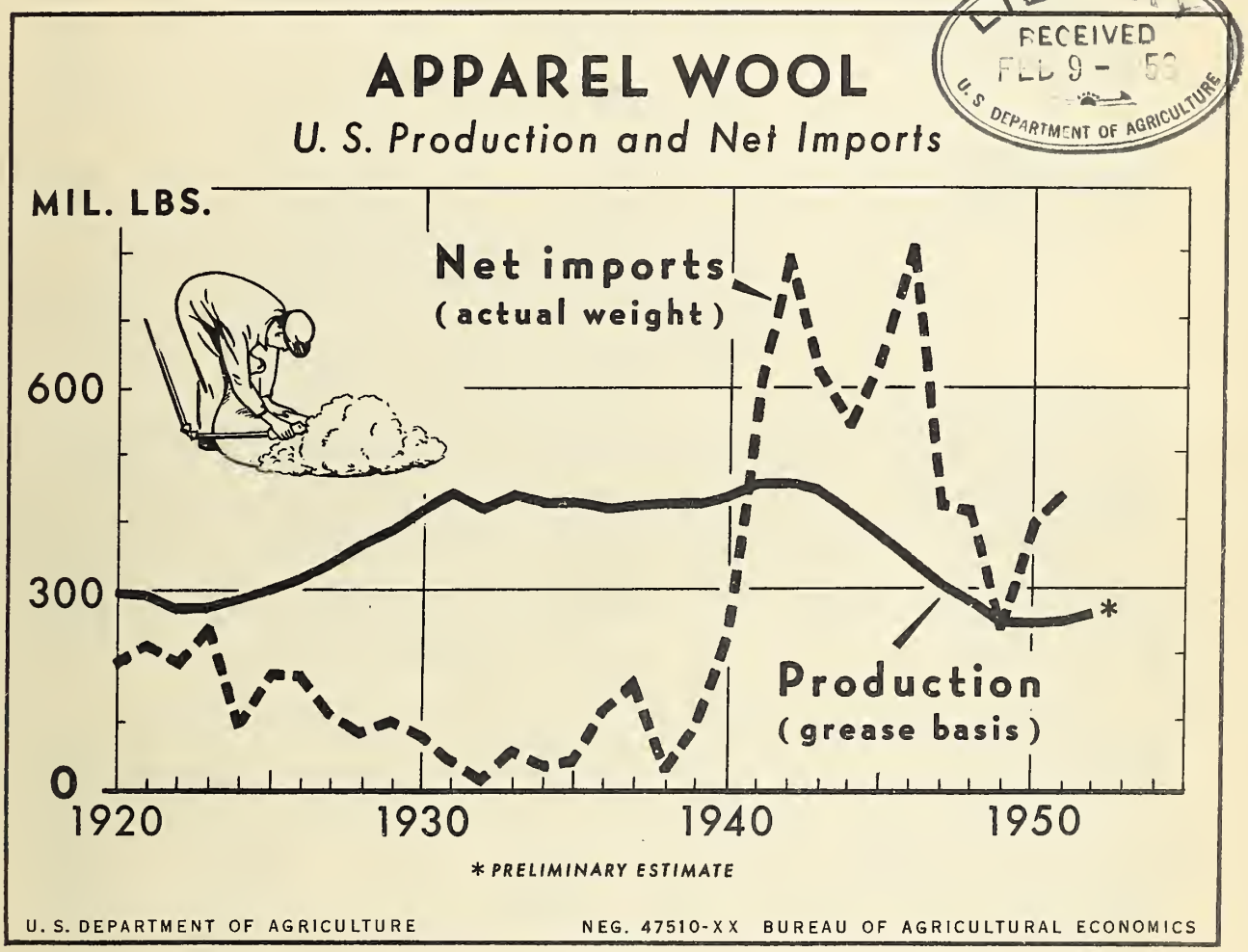

Production of wool in the United States in 1953 probably will be about the same as this year. The increase in production this year was the second following a decline of over 45 percent between 1942 and 1950.

Somewhat more apparel wool was imported during 1951 than the year before; however, mill consumption declined slightly even though a substantial quantity was used in the manufacture of military goods. Both imports and mill consumption during 1952 have been lower than last year.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Item	Unit	PRICES 1951 June	1951 July	1951 Aug.	1951 Sept.	1952 June	1952 July	1952 Aug.	1952 Sept.	Last data available as percent of a year earlier
Price received by farmers	Cents	101.0	89.3	77.6	68.5	51.8	52.7	52.0	50.2	73
Parity price	Cents	56.9	56.7	56.7	56.7	59.8	59.8	60.0	59.4	105
Farm as percent of parity	Percent	178	157	137	121	87	88	87	85	
Boston market prices: 1/										
Domestic wool	Cents per pound									
Territory, scoured basis										
64's, 70's, 80's, staple	do.	235.0	260.0	223.0	182.5	160.0	162.7	166.0	159.6	87
56's, combing	do.	220.0	195.0	175.0	142.5	120.0	132.0	135.0	127.5	89
Bright fleece, clean basis										
64's, 70's, 80's, delaine	do.	235.0	260.0	223.0	182.5	160.0	163.0	166.0	162.2	89
56's, combing	do.	212.5	185.0	165.0	137.5	110.5	112.2	114.4	112.0	81
Foreign wool, excluding duty										
Australian, clean basis										
64's, 70's, good topmaking	do.	282.5	245.0	220.0	182.5	142.5	142.5	142.5	142.5	78
Montevideo, grease basis										
56's, (1's)	do.	150.0	130.0	113.0	100.0	68.0	69.5	70.5	70.2	70
50's, (2's)	do.	144.6	125.0	104.0	85.0	63.0	63.6	64.0	64.0	75
Other textile fibers										
Cotton, middling, 15/16" 2/	do.	45.2	40.1	35.0	35.0	40.4	39.4	39.4	38.9	111
Rayon, staple fiber										
Viscose 1 1/2 denier	do.	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	3/	3/	
Acetate 5 denier	do.	48.0	48.0	48.0	48.0	42.0	42.0	3/	3/	

		CONSUMPTION AND SUPPLIES 1951 Apr.	1951 May	1951 June	1951 July	1952 Apr.	1952 May	1952 June	1952 July 4/	
Mill consumption-scoured basis 5/										
Per week, during month 6/										
Apparel (domestic and duty-paid foreign)	1,000 pounds	8,754	8,609	8,541	6,282	6,004	6,368	6,821	6,282	100
Carpet (duty-free foreign)	do.	2,507	1,807	1,622	413	2,204	2,018	1,411	1,276	309
Accumulated since January 1										
Apparel (domestic and duty-paid foreign)	Mil.lb.	142.8	177.2	211.4	242.8	108.0	133.5	160.8	192.2	79
Carpet (duty-free foreign)	do.	56.3	63.6	70.0	72.1	41.0	49.1	54.7	61.1	85
Imports - actual weight 7/										
Apparel wool (dutiable)	do.	52.2	41.6	34.8	25.8	36.9	33.6	25.4	31.7	123
Carpet wool (duty-free)	do.	21.5	12.9	8.6	7.0	13.4	10.6	9.5	12.3	176
Accumulated since January 1										
Apparel wool (dutiable)	do.	187.7	299.4	264.2	290.0	125.0	158.6	184.1	215.8	74
Carpet wool (duty-free)	do.	73.3	86.2	94.8	101.8	49.0	59.6	69.1	81.4	80
Imports - clean content 7/										
Apparel wool (dutiable)	do.	32.5	26.1	22.3	16.8	24.0	22.1	17.0	20.9	124
Carpet wool (duty-free)	do.	15.4	9.3	6.2	5.0	9.8	7.9	7.1	9.1	182
Accumulated since January 1										
Apparel wool (dutiable)	do.	117.3	143.4	165.6	182.4	81.3	103.4	120.4	141.3	77
Carpet wool (duty-free)	do.	51.4	60.7	66.9	71.9	35.3	43.2	50.3	59.4	83
Reported stocks (scoured basis) 8/										
Apparel wool	do.			168.6				176.4		105
Privately owned	do.			168.6				176.4		105
Domestic wool	do.			69.8				95.3		137
Foreign wool	do.			98.8				81.1		82
Government owned	do.			3/				3/		
Carpet wool	do.			48.8				34.2		70
Wool fabric production										
Accumulated since January 1										
Apparel fabrics	do.			167.9				147.2		88
Government orders	do.			36.1				40.8		113
Men's and boys' wear	do.			69.8				52.5		75
Women's and children's wear	do.			62.0				53.9		87
Non-apparel fabrics	do.			30.6				23.2		76
Blanketing	do.			13.3				12.1		91
Other non-apparel fabrics	do.			17.3				11.1		64
Total woven fabrics	do.			198.5				170.4		86

1/ PMA Boston Market Reports. 2/ Average of 10 markets. 3/ Not available. 4/ Preliminary. 5/ Excludes wool consumed on the cotton and other spinning systems, and in the manufacture of felts, hat bodies, and other miscellaneous products. 6/ Monthly periods are 4 or 5 calendar weeks generally totaling 13 weeks each quarter. 7/ Imports for consumption. 8/ Ending July 1, 1951 and June 28, 1952. Includes wool held on consignment, wool in process of manufacture up to the carding operation, and wool held in bond, but excludes wool held by the Commodity Credit Corporation for the Department of Defense and wool held by or for the account of growers.

Compiled from official sources.

THE WOOL SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, October 3, 1952

SUMMARY

A slightly larger world supply of wool is expected for the 1952-53 season, with all of the increase in crossbred and carpet types. Production probably will be up slightly from 1951-52, and stocks, including a substantial quantity of unsold 1951-52 clip wool in South America, are somewhat larger than last year.

Wool production in the United States next year probably will be about the same as this year. The rate of sheep and lamb slaughter this year indicates that stock sheep numbers at the beginning of next year are likely to be about the same as this year.

Mill use of apparel wool in the United States has trended gradually upward since early this year, when it reached the low of a decline which began in early 1951. The upward trend reflects a strengthening of mill demand associated with an upturn in sales and orders and reduced inventories between mill and consumer. However, it is unlikely that consumption of apparel wool during the second half of 1952 will be sufficient to bring the total for the year up to that for 1951.

With economic activity and consumer purchasing power likely to remain high during 1953, mill consumption next year is likely to exceed slightly that of this year, if defense requirements do not decline.

World consumption of wool in 1951 is estimated to have been below current production for the first time since World War II. It was also the lowest since World War II. Indications are that consumption during the first half of this year was somewhat below a year earlier but above that of the last half of 1951.

The world synthetic fiber industry plans a substantial increase in productive capacity for the manufacture of staple fiber. Expansion plans for rayon and acetate staple fiber call for an increase in capacity by late 1953 of almost 50 percent over 1951 output. Producers in the United States are planning an increase of almost 60 percent for rayon and acetate staple. Furthermore, the United States segment of the industry is planning for sufficient capacity for the newer synthetic staple fibers to permit production late next year at a rate equivalent to about $4\frac{1}{2}$ times 1951 output.

Prices of fine wool at the opening sales of the season in Australia were slightly below the closing prices of last June but somewhat above the low levels of last March. Prices since the opening have trended slowly upward.

Prices at Boston for most domestic shorn wools late in September were below pre-Korean levels and below the corresponding loan values. Prices received by growers for shorn wool this year have averaged below the national average loan value of 54.2 cents, grease basis, each month since the 1952 support program became effective. A substantial quantity of shorn wool has gone under loan. Prices received this year probably will average at about the national average loan value. This is well below the record of 99.5 cents for the 1951 clip and slightly below the average of 57.3 cents in 1950. Growers' returns next year probably will not be greatly different from this year.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Prices Decline in Foreign Markets

The 1952-53 wool-marketing season opened on September 1 in Australia. At the opening sales, prices of fine wools ranged between 5 and 10 percent below the closing prices of last June, but between 15 and 20 percent above the low levels of last March. Prices since then have trended slowly upward but have been well below pre-Korean levels.

Prices of fine wools more than doubled from the outbreak of hostilities in Korea in late June 1950 to March 1951. Major factors in the sharp rise were smaller supply, large military requirements, and continued strong demand for civilian uses. During the 12 months following March 1951, however, prices of fine wools declined below pre-Korean levels. This reflected a reduction in military orders and reduced mill demand for wool for civilian goods following the period of heavy war-scare buying. From April to June, the final 3 months of the past selling season in Australia, prices of fine wools advanced between 25 and 30 percent, reflecting a strengthening of mill demand associated with an upturn in orders and sales and reduced inventories between mill and consumer.

Prices at the London auctions usually reflect the trends of prices in the British Dominions rather closely. Prices during the opening week of the September auctions were down slightly from the July closing prices but advanced during the following week. Opening and closing prices of wool at the London auctions are shown in table 1.

During the sharp drop in wool prices in other markets, growers in Argentina and Uruguay were reluctant to sell at prevailing world prices. Late last July, the Argentine Government, in order to encourage growers to sell, lifted the export tax of 8 percent and revised the exchange rate for greasy and scoured wool for the remainder of this year. Under the revised exchange rates for wool exports, 50 percent is at the basic rate of 5 pesos to the dollar and 50 percent at the preferential rate of 7.50 pesos to the dollar.

Table 1.- Prices of good fleece wools at the London auctions, in cents and pence per pound, clean basis, by months, 1950-52

Week ended 1/	Good medium fleeces 64's-70's	Good medium fleeces 64's-70's	Fine Crossbred fleeces 56's	Fine Crossbred fleeces 56's	Crossbred fleeces 46's	Crossbred fleeces 46's
	Cents	Pence	Cents	Pence	Cents	Pence
1950						
January 27	173.9	149.0	114.4	98.0	70.0	60.0
February 10	158.7	136.0	95.7	82.0	60.7	52.0
March 16	158.7	136.0	93.4	80.0	63.0	54.0
March 31	170.4	146.0	102.7	88.0	70.0	60.0
May 5	177.4	152.0	110.9	95.0	75.9	65.0
May 19	184.4	158.0	114.4	98.0	79.4	68.0
July 6	184.4	158.0	114.4	98.0	80.5	69.0
July 21	198.4	170.0	123.7	106.0	89.9	77.0
September 22	285.9	245.0	198.4	170.0	166.9	143.0
October 6	262.6	225.0	186.7	160.0	152.9	131.0
November 24	282.4	242.0	200.7	172.0	179.7	154.0
December 8	293.9	252.0	227.4	195.0	191.3	164.0
1951						
February 2	355.9	305.0	256.7	220.0	221.7	190.0
February 16	364.1	312.0	280.1	240.0	228.7	196.0
April 6	350.1	300.0	256.7	220.0	210.1	180.0
April 20	2/	2/	245.1	210.0	210.1	180.0
June 6	309.2	265.0	198.4	170.0	145.9	125.0
July 13	221.7	190.0	2/	2/	116.7	100.0
July 20	221.7	190.0	147.0	126.0	119.0	102.0
September 21	145.8	125.0	98.0	84.0	78.1	67.0
October 4	204.1	175.0	139.9	120.0	101.5	87.0
December 5	175.0	150.0	112.0	96.0	85.2	73.0
December 14	178.4	153.0	113.0	97.0	88.6	76.0
1952						
January 25	162.2	140.0	95.0	82.0	81.1	70.0
February 8	165.2	143.0	98.5	85.0	81.1	70.0
March 21	147.3	126.0	79.5	68.0	57.3	49.0
April 3	147.5	126.0	72.6	62.0	51.5	44.0
May 16	163.5	140.0	91.1	78.0	64.2	55.0
May 23	166.3	143.0	91.9	79.0	64.0	55.0
July 18	181.1	156.0	104.5	90.0	78.9	68.0
July 25	174.2	150.0	96.4	83.0	76.6	66.0
Sept. 19	164.6	142.0	91.6	79.0	74.2	64.0
Sept. 26	171.7	148.0	99.8	86.0	76.6	66.0

1/ Quotations are for weeks ending on dates shown, which are opening and closing weeks for each series. 2/ No quotation.
Compiled from Krelinger and Fernau market reports. Prices converted from pence to cents at current rates of exchange.

Boston Quotations
for Domestic Wools Decline

Quotations for most domestic wools at Boston, reflecting the trend of prices abroad, were lowered substantially during the second week in September. For the week ending September 26, territory fine staple and good French combing wool was quoted at $1.58 per pound, clean basis, the same as the low reached early last April. Quotations for other domestic wools ranged from 10 cents below to 12.5 cents above the levels of early April. Quotations for almost all domestic wools at Boston late in September were well below pre-Korean levels and below their respective loan values.

A comparison of quotations as of late September with pre-Korean levels, post-Korean peaks, and 1952 program loan values is given in tables 2 and 3.

Farm Prices
for Shorn Wool

Prices received by growers in the United States for shorn wool, reflecting the trend of prices in foreign markets, advanced from a national average of 46.5 cents (106 percent of parity), per pound, grease basis, in October 1949 to $1.12 (199 percent of parity) at mid-March 1951. The mid-month average then declined each month until it reached 49.9 cents (83 percent of parity) at mid-April of this year, but then advanced to 52.7 cents (88 percent of parity) at mid-July.

Prices received at mid-September averaged 50.2 cents, compared with 68.5 cents a year earlier. The mid-September 1952 average was equivalent to 85 percent of parity, while the September 1951 average was equivalent to 121 percent of parity.

The national average loan value to producers for shorn wool under the 1952 support program is 54.2 cents per pound, grease basis. The mid-month average of prices received for shorn wool has been below this average loan value each month since the program became effective on April 1.

Price support for wool will be available next year. The Agricultural Act of 1949 provides that the price of wool be supported at such level, between 60 and 90 percent of parity, as to encourage an annual production of approximately 360 million pounds of shorn wool.

United States Tariff Commission
Announces Investigation Under Section 22
of Agricultural Adjustment Act

The United States Tariff Commission recently issued a public notice which read, in part, as follows: "By direction of the President, dated September 2, 1952, the United States Tariff Commission, on the 2d day of September 1952, instituted, and hereby gives notice of an investigation,

Table 2.- Prices of domestic shorn wool at Boston, clean basis, for week ended September 26, 1952 with comparisons

Classification	1950 week ended June 23	1951 week ended Mar. 16	1952 week ended Apr. 18	1952 week ended Sept. 26	Percent change week ended September 26, 1952, from week ended June 23, 1950	March 16, 1951	April 18, 1952
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Percent	Percent	Percent
Graded shorn							
Territory and Texas							
Fine, good French combing and staple	176.0	380.0	157.5	157.5	-10.5	-58.6	0
1/2 blood, good French combing and staple	158.5	345.0	135.0	142.5	-10.1	-58.7	+5.6
3/8 blood, good French combing and staple	139.5	315.0	120.0	127.5	-8.6	-59.5	+6.2
1/4 blood, good French combing and staple	122.5	300.0	110.0	117.5	-4.1	-60.8	+6.8
Low 1/4 blood	97.5	260.0	97.5	92.5	-5.1	-64.4	-5.1
Common and braid	92.5	255.0	92.5	85.0	-8.1	-66.7	-8.1
Fleece							
Fine, Delaine	182.5	380.0	160.0	160.0	-12.3	-57.9	0
1/2 blood, good French combing and staple	158.5	330.0	130.0	142.5	-10.1	-56.8	+9.6
3/8 blood, good French combing and staple	127.5	290.0	110.0	111.5	-12.6	-61.6	+1.4
1/4 blood, good French combing and staple	122.5	275.0	105.0	105.5	-13.9	-61.6	+0.5
Low 1/4 blood	102.5	245.0	95.0	87.5	-14.6	-64.3	-7.9
Common and braid	97.5	240.0	87.5	77.5	-20.5	-67.7	-11.4
Original bag shorn							
Fine Texas							
Good French combing and staple	174.5	380.0	157.5	155.0	-11.2	-59.2	-1.6
Eight months (1 inch and over)	157.5	320.0	140.0	137.5	-12.7	-57.0	-1.8
Fall (3/4 inch and over)	127.5	275.0	137.5	132.5	+3.9	-51.8	-3.6

Compiled from market reports of the Production and Marketing Administration.

Table 3.- Market quotations and 1952 loan values per pound for domestic shorn wools, clean basis, Boston

Classification		1952 program loan values	Boston quotations week ended September 26, 1952
		Dollars	Dollars
Graded shorn			
Territory and Texas			
Fine, good French combing and staple	(64's and finer)	1.64	1.55-1.60
Fine, average and good French combing	(64's and finer)	1.57	1.50-1.55
Fine, short French combing and clothing	(64's and finer)	1.43	1.30-1.40
1/2 blood, good French combing and staple	(60's, 62's)	1.51	1.40-1.45
1/2 blood, average and good French combing	(60's, 62's)	1.41	1.25-1.30
3/8 blood, good French combing and staple	(56's, 58's)	1.30	1.25-1.30
1/4 blood, good French combing and staple	(48's, 50's)	1.17	1.15-1.20
Low 1/4 blood,	(46's)	1.05	0.90-0.95
Common and braid	(44's and coarser)	1.02	.80- .90
Fleece			
Fine, Delaine	(64's and finer)	1.66	1.55-1.65
Fine, short French combing and clothing	(64's and finer)	1.36	1.30-1.35
1/2 blood, good French combing and staple	(60's, 62's)	1.46	1.40-1.45
3/8 blood, good French combing and staple	(56's, 58's)	1.23	1.10-1.13
1/4 blood, good French combing and staple	(48's, 50's)	1.15	1.04-1.07
Low 1/4 blood	(46's)	0.99	0.85-0.90
Common and braid	(44's and coarser)	.95	.75- .80
Original bag shorn			
Fine Texas			
Good French combing and staple	(64's and finer)	1.63	1.50-1.60
Eight months (1 inch and over)	(64's and finer)	1.40	1.35-1.40
Fall (3/4 inch and over)	(64's and finer)	1.28	1.30-1.35

under section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, as amended, and Executive Order No. 7233 of November 23, 1935, for the purpose of determining whether wool of the sheep subject to duty under paragraphs 1101(a) and 1102 of the Tariff Act of 1930, carbonized wool of the sheep subject to duty under paragraph 1106 of the said Act, or sheep's-wool tops subject to duty under the said paragraph 1106 are being or are practically certain to be imported into the United States under such conditions and in such quantities as to render or tend to render ineffective or materially interfere with the price-support programs undertaken by the United States Department of Agriculture with respect to wool."

All parties interested were given an opportunity to be present, to produce evidence and to be heard at a public hearing which was held September 29-October 1, 1952.

"Buy American" Provision of Defense Appropriation Act

The Department of Defense Appropriation Act (Public Law 488, 82nd Congress, Chapter 630, 2nd Session, H.R. 7391) reads as follows concerning the procurement of wool and wool products: "Provided, that no part of this or any other appropriation contained in this Act shall be available for the procurement of any article of food, clothing, cotton or wool (whether in the form of fiber or yarn or contained in fabrics, materials, or manufactured articles) not grown, reprocessed, reused, or produced in the United States or its possessions, except to the extent that the Secretary of the Department concerned shall determine that a satisfactory quality and sufficient quantity of any articles of food or clothing or any form of cotton or wool grown, reprocessed, reused, or produced in the United States or its possessions cannot be procured as and when needed at United States market prices and except procurements by vessels in foreign waters and emergency procurements or procurement of perishable foods by establishments located outside the continental United States, except the Territories of Hawaii and Alaska, for the personnel attached thereto."

The Munitions Board recently announced the procedures to be followed in the procurement of items containing wool to comply with this provision of the Defense Appropriation Act. The procedures provide for the awarding of contracts by the Department of Defense for items containing virgin wool to firms which will use domestic wool if such wool is available at prices not exceeding 110 percent of the Department of Agriculture loan support prices. If domestic wool is not available at this price, the procedures specify a system of price differentials for use of domestic wool over the use of foreign wool.

Domestic Wool Production Increased this Year; Expected to be about the Same Next Year

Total production of wool in the United States next year is likely to be about the same as this year. Slaughter of sheep and lambs this year indicates that sheep numbers at the beginning of next year are likely to be about the same as at the beginning of this year.

Combined output of shorn and pulled wool this year probably will be about 260 million pounds, grease basis. The quantity of wool shorn and to be shorn this year was estimated early in August at 229.8 million pounds. This is about 4 million pounds or 2 percent more than the quantity shorn last year but about 41 percent less than the record clip of 388 million pounds of 1942.

The estimated increase in shorn wool production this year reflects the larger number of sheep shorn and a record average fleece weight. The number of sheep shorn this year has been estimated at 1.5 percent above last year, and the average fleece weight at 8.27 pounds, compared with the previous record high of 8.24 pounds of last year.

Production of shorn wool in the 13 Western sheep States was estimated at 164 million pounds, down slightly from last year. Production in the "native" or "fleece" wool States-all except the 13 Western States-has been estimated at 66 million pounds, 6 million pounds above last year.

The increase in pulled wool output this year reflects the larger slaughter. Slaughter of sheep and lambs through August of this year was about 22 percent above that of the same months of last year.

World Wool Production Expected to Increase

The Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations has estimated world production of wool during the 1952-53 season at 4,070 million pounds, grease basis (table 4). Production during the 1951-52 season has been put at 4,000 million pounds. On the average, about one-fifth of the world output is carpet wool. Output of both apparel and carpet wool is expected to be larger than last season, but the increase for apparel wool is expected to be smaller than that for carpet wool. Present indications are that production of merino wool, the finer apparel wool, is likely to be down slightly.

World production of wool, after reaching a record of 4,200 million pounds in 1941, declined to a postwar low of 3,710 million pounds in 1947, but has trended upward again in recent years.

The rise in world wool production in recent years reflects a steady increase in world sheep numbers. It has been estimated that world sheep numbers early in 1952 totaled 808 million head, compared with 778 million head a year earlier. The increases in wool production estimated for the 1951 and 1952 seasons, however, are not as large as the estimated increases in sheep numbers for those years. Fleece weight and quality have been reduced considerably by drought in Argentina, Australia, and the Union of South Africa.

Commercial Wool Stocks in United States Increase

At the end of the second quarter of this year, holdings of wool (apparel and carpet) by dealers and manufacturers in the United States totaled 211 million pounds, scoured basis. The total includes stocks

held on consignment and stocks held in bond; however, it does not include foreign wool held by the Commodity Credit Corporation for the Department of Defense and wool held by growers, except that held on consignment for growers.

The total of 211 million pounds at the end of the second quarter of 1952 compared with 165 million pounds at the end of the first quarter and 217 million pounds a year earlier. Of the total, 176 million pounds were apparel wools and 34 million pounds were carpet wools.

The reported holdings of apparel wool represented an increase of 45 million pounds during the second quarter. Although total holdings of apparel wool were only 8 million pounds above a year earlier, the composition of the stocks changed materially. A net increase of 25 million pounds was indicated for domestic wool, but holdings of foreign wool showed a net decline of 18 million pounds. The increase in total holdings of domestic wool included a large quantity which had not yet entered into the hands of manufacturers: manufacturers' and topmakers' holdings were down 11 million pounds, but holdings by others were up 37 million pounds - the equivalent of almost 1/3 of estimated 1952 production - over a year earlier. The sharp increase in such holdings probably indicates that, with costs of foreign wools below the loan values of comparable domestic wools, domestic wools are not entering manufacturing channels as rapidly this year as last. A large part of the 1951 clip was contracted for well in advance of shearing.

Table 4.- Production of wool in specified countries, grease basis, 1947-52

Country	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951 1/	1952 1/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Argentina	475.0	419.0	420.0	420.0	430.0	420.0
Australia	973.0	1,031.0	1,109.0	1,160.0	1,110.0	1,100.0
New Zealand	362.0	367.0	390.0	372.0	374.0	390.0
Union of South Africa	205.2	219.0	217.5	227.5	223.7	220.0
United States	308.0	278.4	248.5	247.8	250.4	260.0
Uruguay	150.3	144.0	163.3	180.8	187.4	188.0
Other countries	1,236.5	1,301.6	1,321.7	1,391.9	1,424.5	1,492.0
Estimated world total 2/	3,710.0	3,760.0	3,870.0	4,000.0	4,000.0	4,070.0

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Rounded to tens of millions.

Compiled from reports of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Reported holdings of apparel wool on about April 1, the beginning of the wool-marketing season in the United States, were about 20 percent larger than the 1935-39 average for that time of year. They represented about 22 weeks of consumption at the then current rate, compared with 17 a year earlier and an average of 21 weeks for 1935-39. Manufacturers' holdings represented 13 weeks of consumption, compared with 15 a year earlier and an average of 11 for 1935-39.

On June 28, dealers and manufacturers held 34 million pounds, scoured basis, of carpet class wools. The quantity held was the same as that of three months earlier but 15 million pounds less than year earlier.

13 Million Pounds of Domestic Wool
Under Loan as of July 31

The Commodity Credit Corporation acquired no wool under the 1950 and 1951 support programs. Under the 1943-49 programs, however, CCC acquired approximately 1.6 billion pounds, actual weight. The last of these wools were sold during the summer of 1950.

There are indications that CCC may acquire a substantial quantity under the current program unless prices of foreign wools advance to levels above the loan values for domestic wools before January 31, 1953. As of July 31, about 13 million pounds, grease basis, of domestic shorn wool were under loan. A substantial additional quantity of shorn wool probably has gone under loan since then. No pulled wool had been purchased through the support program as of that date.

Of the total under loan on July 31, slightly over 12 million pounds were under advance loans and slightly under 1 million pounds were under nonrecourse loans.

1952 Support Program for Domestic Wool

The 1952 support program for shorn wool operates through loans rather than purchases as under previous programs. Loans are made through handlers only on wool owned by the grower. Requests for appraisal preparatory to obtaining a loan must be made by handlers prior to December 1, 1952, but loan applications may be made any time after appraisal through December 31, 1952.

Two types of loan are available - the regular or nonrecourse loan and the advance loan on a recourse basis.

The regular or nonrecourse loan matures January 31, 1953. If the loan is not liquidated by payment of the amount of the loan plus interest, the United States Department of Agriculture will accept the wool securing the loan as full payment.

The advance loan on a recourse basis gives producers an advance of funds, not exceeding 70 percent of the estimated loan value, prior to appraisal. The advance loans are for a maximum of 5 months but in all cases mature on December 15, 1952. If the loan is not liquidated by maturity, either by payment of the amount of the loan plus interest or by conversion to a nonrecourse loan, the U.S.D.A. will take action to collect rather than take over the wool collateral.

The 1952 support program for pulled wool operates, as in past years, through purchases. Request for appraisal must be made prior to December 1, 1952, but notification of intent to sell to Commodity Credit Corporation may be made any time after appraisal through December 31, 1952.

World Stocks of Wool Increase

Total world stocks of wool on July 1 probably were somewhat larger than a year earlier. An increase in stocks in the Southern Hemisphere surplus-producing countries probably more than offset a slight decline in holdings in the consuming countries.

Total stocks of unsold wool in the 5 chief Southern Hemisphere surplus-producing countries - Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, Union of South Africa, and Uruguay - on July 1 were about 140 million pounds, clean basis, larger than a year earlier. Stocks in Argentina and Uruguay were about 210 million pounds larger, but the quantity of unsold wool in the 3 British Dominions was about 70 million pounds smaller.

Exports of wool from these Southern Hemisphere surplus-producing countries through June of the 1951-52 season were below those of the 1950-51 season (table 5). The quantity of wool available for export, however, was larger - an increase of 150 million pounds, grease basis, of unsold wool at the beginning of the season more than offset an estimated decline in production of 40 million pounds during the season.

The decline in total exports was accounted for by smaller exports from Argentina, Australia, and Uruguay. Exports from New Zealand and the Union of South Africa were larger than for the 1950-51 season. The larger exports from New Zealand reflected the sale and export early in the season of 1950-51 clip wool which had accumulated as a result of a dockworkers' strike.

Table 5.- Exports of wool, actual weight, from Southern Hemisphere exporting countries, 1949-50, 1950-51, and 1951-52 seasons through June 1/

	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	Percent change 1951-52 from 1950-51
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent
Australia	1,204	1,022	907	-11
New Zealand	411	262	458	+75
Union of South Africa	179	197	214	+ 9
Argentina	305	168	42	-75
Uruguay	110	136	45	-67
Total	2,209	1,785	1,666	- 7

1/ Season beginning July 1 in Australia, New Zealand and Union of South Africa and season beginning October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay.

Compiled from reports of Commonwealth Economic Committee.

The sharply reduced exports from Argentina and Uruguay reflected the reluctance of growers in those countries to sell at prevailing world prices after the price decline began. The Argentine government recently temporarily revised the exchange rate for wool exports and lifted the tax on wool exports in an attempt to encourage growers to sell. Export licensing is still required for wool exports, however.

Stocks of wool in Australia at the beginning of the 1951-52 season were about 20 million pounds, grease basis, smaller than a year earlier. Production during the 1951-52 season was down 50 million pounds from the previous season. The decline in exports from Australia reflects these factors.

World Productive Capacity for Manufacture of Man-made Staple Fiber to Increase

Plans of the man-made fiber industry call for a substantial increase in productive capacity for the manufacture of staple fiber.

It is estimated that world productive capacity for rayon staple by the end of 1953 will be about 2.5 billion pounds. This would be almost 50 percent over actual output of 1.7 billion pounds during 1951. Productive capacity in the United States is expected to increase to 360 million pounds next year. Production last year amounted to 207 million pounds, and consumption totaled 411 million pounds. The price of viscose staple fiber has been quoted at 40 cents per pound in the United States since December 1950.

World production of acetate staple fiber in 1951 amounted to 154 million pounds. Productive capacity by late 1953 is expected to be almost 60 percent over the 1951 output. Capacity in the United States is expected to reach over 170 million pounds compared with actual output of 129 million pounds in 1951. The price of acetate staple in the United States has been 42 cents since last March.

The percentage increase in world productive capacity for the newer man-made staple fibers such as Nylon, Orlon, Dacron, Dynel, Vicara, Acrilan, X-51, etc., is expected to be much greater than for rayon and acetate staple. Productive capacity for the manufacture of such fiber in the United States next year is expected to increase to over 150 million pounds. Output in 1951 amounted to only 34 million pounds. Prices per pound in the United States for some of these staple fibers are as follows: Nylon - $1.80; Orlon - $1.90; Dacron - $1.80; Acrilan - $1.85; Dynel - $1.40; X-51 - $1.90; Vicara - $1.00.

United States Imports of Wool Below Last Year

United States imports of dutiable wool for consumption during each of the first 6 months of this year were below those of the corresponding months of last year. The trend was reversed in July, however, when imports were above last year.

Cumulative imports of apparel (dutiable) wool through July amounted to 141 million pounds, clean basis, compared with 182 million pounds during the same months of last year. Imports during the second quarter of this year were about 10 percent larger than during the first. Imports during the first quarter of 1951 were the largest for the quarter since 1948 but trended downward the rest of the year.

Imports of carpet (duty-free) wools for consumption during each of the first 5 months of this year were below those of last year. However, imports during June and July were 45 percent over those of last year. More duty-free wool was imported during January of last year than during the final 4 months of the year.

Imports of such wools through June of this year amounted to 59 million pounds, clean basis, compared with 72 million last year. The lower imports during the early months of this year reflect the lower level of carpet wool consumption. All carpet wool used in the United States is imported.

A much larger proportion of United States wool imports during the early months of this year were of British Dominion origin than last year. During the first half of this year, imports from Australia, New Zealand, and the Union of South Africa accounted for 65 percent of the total (table 6). The percentage last year was 39 percent. Imports from Argentina and Uruguay, however, accounted for only 14 percent compared with 38 percent in 1951.

United States Apparel Wool Use Down from Last Year; May Increase

Woolen and worsted mill use of apparel wool totaled 192 million pounds, scoured basis, during January-July. During the same months of last year, 243 million pounds were used. Mill consumption during the first quarter was the lowest since the second quarter of 1949. There are indications, however, that the downward trend which began early last year has been reversed (table 7). Consumption increased during the second quarter when it usually declines. Consumption in June, at a weekly rate of 6.8 million pounds, was the largest since September of last year. Consumption during July, the latest month for which data are available, was down less than seasonally from June.

Woolen and worsted mills in the United States consumed 382 million pounds, scoured basis, of apparel wool during 1951, 13 percent less than in 1950 and 37 percent less than the record of 610 million pounds in 1946. The decline last year reflected a sharp drop in the use of wool for civilian goods. The use of wool for military items increased considerably and probably was equivalent to about 2/5 of the total quantity used. The decline in mill use of wool for civilian goods was associated with a drop in retail sales and large inventories in manufacturing and distribution channels following the heavy war-scare buying and an increase in the use of other fiber in place of wool.

Table 6.- Percentage distribution of U. S. imports of wool by country of origin, January-June 1951 and 1952

Country	Duty-free		Dutiable		Total	
	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Australia	0.1	1/	37.7	46.6	26.9	32.9
New Zealand	2.8	23.0	6.4	22.4	5.4	22.6
Union of South Africa	0.5	0.2	8.9	13.0	6.5	9.2
Argentina	30.5	14.1	12.1	6.4	17.4	8.7
Uruguay	0.2	0.1	28.8	7.2	20.5	5.1
Other countries	65.9	62.6	6.1	4.4	23.3	21.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Less than 0.05.

Compiled from reports of U. S. Department of Commerce.

The proportion of 60's and finer wools in total consumption this year was down considerably from last year and was the lowest since the war years (table 8). Such wools represented only 53.7 percent of the total quantity of apparel wool used, compared with 58.0 percent last year, a post-war peak of 63.8 percent in 1948, and the wartime average of 51.9 percent.

The proportion of the total represented by consumption on the worsted system has shown a similar decline (table 9). Consumption on the worsted system accounted for only 52.6 percent of the total this year, compared with 63.9 percent last year and the post-war peak of 67.3 percent in 1950.

United States Carpet Wool Use
Down from Last Year; May Increase

United States woolen and worsted mills used 61 million pounds, scoured basis, of carpet wool through July of this year. This was 11 million pounds less than the quantity consumed during January-July 1951.

The rate of carpet wool consumption began to decline late in 1950 and reached the low of the decline during the summer of 1951. Less than one-fourth as much carpet wool was used during July-September 1951 as during the same period of 1950. Consumption then trended slowly upward until June of this year. A sharp drop during June and July was associated with a strike at several carpet weaving mills. In spite of this decline, however, total consumption during May-July was 25 percent above that of last year; the rate of consumption during July was four times that of July of last year.

Table 7.- Weekly rate of consumption of apparel and carpet wool on woolen and worsted systems, scoured basis, United States, by months, 1950-52

Classification	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
1950												
Apparel	8,006	8,837	8,518	7,943	8,268	8,084	7,370	9,901	9,015	9,671	7,871	7,393
Carpet	3,974	3,977	3,989	4,208	4,097	3,725	2,448	3,989	3,710	4,223	3,712	3,638
Total	11,980	12,814	12,507	12,151	12,365	11,809	9,818	13,890	12,725	13,894	11,583	11,031
1951												
Apparel	8,192	7,496	7,020	8,754	8,609	8,541	6,282	7,320	6,912	6,360	6,368	6,300
Carpet	3,416	3,410	3,268	2,507	1,807	1,622	413	1,040	1,069	1,556	1,663	1,761
Total	11,608	10,906	10,288	11,261	10,416	10,163	6,695	8,360	7,981	7,916	8,031	8,061
1952												
Apparel	5,866	6,189	5,981	6,004	6,368	6,821	6,282					
Carpet	2,201	2,430	2,313	2,204	2,018	1,411	1,276					
Total	8,067	8,619	8,294	8,208	8,386	8,232	7,558					

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 8.- Percentage distribution of apparel wool consumption by grades, January-June 1946-52

Grade	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
60's and finer	54.4	60.7	63.8	54.2	56.8	58.0	53.7
50's up to 60's	31.4	26.2	25.5	35.0	33.7	32.4	34.0
48's and courser	14.2	13.1	10.7	10.8	9.5	9.6	12.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census

Table 9.- Percentage distribution of apparel wool consumption on woolen and worsted systems, United States, January-June, 1946-52

System	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Worsted	57.6	63.5	66.2	59.2	67.3	63.9	52.6
Woolen	42.4	36.5	33.8	40.8	32.7	36.1	47.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

The upward trend probably will be resumed now that the strike has been settled. It is likely that carpet wool consumption during the second half of the year will be sufficiently larger than last year to bring the total for the year above that of last year. The upward trend probably will continue into next year.

The use of carpet wool last year, 102 million pounds, scoured basis, was the lowest since the war years when consumption was restricted to 40 percent of the prewar level. The 1951 consumption compared with 198 million pounds used the year before and the record of 208 million pounds in 1948. The sharp decline reflected a drop in retail sales, large inventories, and a sharp increase in the use of rayon, cotton, and other materials in the manufacture of soft-surface floor coverings.

Raw wool accounted for 71.4 percent of the raw fiber used in the spinning of carpet yarn by the woolen and worsted segments of the textile industry early this year. Early last year, the proportion was only 66.2 percent, but in 1950 it was 81.4 percent. The trend in the proportion is shown, by months, in table 10.

The use of other materials, particularly cotton, in the manufacture of floor coverings by other segments of the textile industry also increased greatly.

Table 10.- Percentage distribution of fibers consumed for spinning of carpet and rug yarns on the woolen and worsted systems, United States, by months, 1950-52

Fiber	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Total													
1950	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1951	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1952	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0						
Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep													
1950	80.3	80.3	81.2	81.6	81.6	79.1	75.5	78.4	78.5	76.8	74.7	74.2	79.2
1951	73.9	71.4	72.5	63.0	54.6	52.0	38.7	56.2	57.4	65.5	64.5	69.8	64.5
1952	70.4	73.2	71.5	71.5	69.2	72.8	74.1						
Other wool 1/													
1950	3.4	3.8	3.4	3.0	3.1	3.8	3.1	4.6	3.2	3.3	3.1	2.7	3.4
1951	2.5	2.8	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.7	2.8	2.1	2.4	2.0	3.7	3.0
1952	2.9	2.4	3.4	4.0	4.4	2.7	2.7						
Reused and reprocessed wool 1/													
1950	10.8	9.2	9.7	9.4	9.2	10.1	11.5	8.7	9.8	9.7	10.2	8.7	9.7
1951	9.2	9.6	8.9	9.1	9.2	8.5	13.1	5.0	8.5	6.8	7.3	5.8	8.5
1952	6.8	5.8	4.8	5.0	5.8	8.3	10.0						
Rayon (staple and other)													
1950	2.4	4.0	3.0	3.4	3.8	4.5	5.5	5.7	5.8	7.2	9.4	12.3	5.6
1951	11.7	13.8	13.4	22.0	29.4	31.9	37.1	31.4	27.7	21.5	22.3	17.5	20.8
m 1952	17.1	16.2	18.8	17.8	18.7	13.4	10.9						
Other fiber													
1950	3.1	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.3	2.5	4.4	2.6	2.7	3.0	2.6	2.1	2.1
1951	2.7	2.4	1.9	2.4	3.2	4.0	7.4	4.6	4.3	3.8	3.9	3.2	3.2
1952	2.2	2.4	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.8	2.3						

1/ As defined in the Wool Products Labeling Act of 1939.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Decline in World Consumption of Wool Halted

The sharp decline in world wool consumption, which began early in 1951, reached a low during the third quarter of last year. Consumption has trended slowly upward since then.

The Commonwealth Economic Committee has estimated consumption in 1951 at 2,248 million pounds, clean basis. This was the lowest since World War II and about 16 percent below the record of 2,650 million pounds during 1950. However, it was about 9 percent above the prewar average.

Premiminary data for 8 of the major consuming countries indicate that consumption in these countries during the first half of this year was about 17.5 percent below a year earlier but about 7 percent above that of the last half of 1951. Consumption in these countries during the second quarter was slightly above that of the first quarter. The Commonwealth Economic Committee estimate of the annual rate of consumption during the first half of this year was about 8 percent below estimated production during the 1951-52 season.

Prior to the decline of last year, the trend of world wool consumption was upward. The trend in the United States since World War II, however, has been downward.

Table 11.- Estimated world production and consumption of wool, clean basis, 1946-51

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951 1/	1952 1/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Production 2/	2,100	2,125	2,100	2,150	2,199	2,274	2,290
Consumption	2,251	2,434	2,541	2,427	2,675	2,248	

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Production during the season beginning July 1 of the previous year.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Economic Committee.

Yarn Output on Woolen and Worsted Systems Below Last Year

About 381 million pounds of yarn, regardless of fiber content, were spun on the worsted and woolen systems during January-July of this year. The quantity spun during the same months of last year was 442 million pounds.

About 72 million pounds of carpet yarn were spun during this period compared with 95 million during the same months of last year.

Output of other yarn (used principally for apparel but also to some extent for such non-apparel items as blanketing, draperies, and upholstery) totaled 309 million yards, compared with 347 last year. Of the total, 198 million pounds or 64 percent were spun on the woolen system. Last year, woolen yarn accounted for only 59 percent of the total.

Table 12.- Weekly rate of spinning of yarn on woolen and worsted systems, United States, by months, 1950-52

Classification	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Carpet												
1950	3,840	3,945	4,034	4,289	4,122	3,578	2,579	4,162	3,830	4,408	4,029	4,020
1951	3,897	4,001	3,897	3,520	2,817	2,678	931	1,743	1,568	2,001	2,172	2,128
1952	2,475	2,838	2,814	2,556	2,633	1,659	1,386					
Other than Carpet												
1950	10,540	11,298	11,219	10,971	11,813	11,750	10,339	13,451	12,660	13,187	11,393	11,226
1951	11,729	11,128	10,556	11,807	12,003	12,227	9,157	11,260	10,384	10,190	10,531	9,965
1952	9,667	10,530	9,932	9,467	10,131	10,892	9,439					

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Output of Woolen and Worsted Fabric in United States Continues Below Last Year

Output of woolen and worsted woven fabric (fabric principally wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool) during the first half of this year totaled 170.4 million linear yards. About 198.5 million yards were produced during the first half of last year. Output during the first quarter was 13 percent below last year and for the second quarter was 16 percent lower. Production during the second quarter of this year was 4 percent below that of the first.

Of the total yardage produced during the first half of this year, 147.2 million were apparel fabric and 23.2 were non-apparel. Government orders accounted for 40.8 million yards or 27.7 percent of total apparel fabric output (table 13). The quantity produced toward Government orders has declined sharply since the third quarter of 1951 when production of 35.7 million yards represented 51 percent of the total.

The remainder of the apparel fabric output was almost equally divided between men's and boys' wear fabric and women's and children's wear fabric - 52.5 million yards of the former and 53.9 million of the latter. These figures represented declines of 25 and 13 percent from last year.

Blanketing represented 52 percent of the 12.1 million yards of non-apparel fabric produced. The decline of 9 percent in output of blanketing from last year reflected the sharp drop in Government orders.

In addition to the woven fabric, 4.2 million pounds of woven felt were produced. Of this total, 3.1 million pounds consisted of papermaker's felts. Output of such felt was down 32 percent from last year.

Table 13.- Percent of woolen and worsted apparel fabric and blanketing produced toward Government orders, 1950-52

Type of fabric	1950			1951				1952	
	First half	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	First quarter	Second quarter
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Apparel	2.6	1.4	4.7	12.3	31.2	50.6	41.1	31.1	24.2
Blanketing	1/	1/	1/	11.7	56.0	69.8	54.2	41.5	26.4

1/ Not available.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Cuttings of Men's Tailored Clothing

Cuttings of all items of men's tailored clothing during July of this year were up substantially over a year earlier. Cumulative cuttings of

suits and topcoats and overcoats through July, however, were well below last year (table 14). Cuttings of separate trousers during January-July were up from last year.

For the January-July period, the proportion for all categories cut from fabrics containing 50 percent or more wool was below last year (table 15). However, the trend was reversed for regular-weight suits and separate trousers during June - for these items the proportion during June and July was slightly larger than last year. The proportion continued to decline, however, for summer suits.

Trend Away from All-Wool Sweaters Continued Last Year

Total production of 7.7 million dozens of sweaters in 1951 was 12 percent below that of 1950. The decline reflected a sharp drop in output of all-wool sweaters; production of sweaters other than all-wool, including nylon, either equalled or exceeded the 1950 output.

Data showing the proportion of sweater output by fiber content for 1948 and later years are shown in table 16. For most items, the all-wool percentage has declined sharply.

Table 14.- Cuttings of specified items of mens' apparel, United States, January - July, 1950-52

Type of garment	Number of garments cut			Percentage change in weekly average rates	
	1950 (30 weeks)	1951 (31 weeks)	1952 (31 weeks)	1951 from 1950	1952 from 1951
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Percent	Percent
Suits, total	12,762	12,788	10,670	- 3.0	-16.6
Regular-weight	1/ 9,661	9,570	8,020	- 4.1	-16.2
50 percent or more wool 2/	8,982	8,982	7,353	- 3.2	-18.1
Other	99	588	667	+475.8	+13.2
Summer-weight	3,101	3,218	2,650	+ 0.4	-17.6
50 percent or more wool 2/	1,547	1,172	732	-26.8	-37.6
Other	1,554	2,046	1,918	+27.4	- 6.2
Separate dress and sport trousers	26,685	24,128	26,450	-12.5	+ 9.6
50 percent or more wool 2/	10,988	7,185	7,766	-36.7	+ 8.1
Rayon	13,917	15,675	17,135	+ 9.0	+ 9.3
Cotton	1,780	1,268	1,549	-31.0	+22.2
Overcoats and topcoats	3,397	3,344	2,711	- 4.7	-18.9

1/ Totals shown include estimates of garments cut by reporters who did not report fiber content of garments; the totals, therefore, exceed cuttings shown by fabric.
2/ The classification for 1950 read "25 percent or more wool."

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 15.- Percentage distribution of cuttings of mens' tailored clothing, by fiber content and type of garment, United States, January-July, 1951and 1952

Type of garment	Jan.-Mar.		Apr.-June		July		Jan.-July	
	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Suits								
Regular-weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
50 percent or more wool	95.6	91.8	92.8	91.3	89.0	92.2	93.9	91.7
Other	4.4	8.2	7.2	8.7	11.0	7.8	6.1	8.3
Summer-weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
50 percent or more wool	38.9	34.1	32.9	19.7	30.7	22.1	36.4	27.6
Other (primarily rayon and nylon)	61.1	65.9	67.1	80.3	69.3	77.9	63.6	72.4
Trousers	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cotton	4.2	4.1	5.8	6.6	8.2	9.2	5.3	5.9
Rayon	64.0	66.1	67.1	65.5	61.1	57.5	64.9	64.7
50 percent or more wool	31.8	29.8	27.1	27.9	30.7	33.3	29.8	29.4

Compiled from data in reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 16.- Percentage distribution of production of sweaters, knit jackets, and jerseys, by fiber content and type, United States, 1948-51

Class and Product	1948	1949	1950	1951
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Men's	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All-wool	77.9	76.4	76.0	71.1
Part-wool - 25 percent or more wool	6.9	6.5	9.3	10.3
Other	15.2	17.1	14.7	18.6
Women's				
Sweaters and jerseys	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All-wool	74.8	68.8	64.2	58.9
All-nylon	(25.2	(31.2	28.7	31.4
Other			7.1	9.7
Cardigans	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All-wool	91.3	85.7	85.9	74.7
All-nylon	(8.7	(14.3	7.8	15.7
Other			6.3	9.6
Boys'	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All-wool	73.7	69.2	64.7	47.4
Part-wool - 25 percent or more wool	7.7	9.3	9.0	11.5
Other	18.6	21.5	26.3	41.1
Girls'	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All-wool	97.5	90.4	79.8	69.9
All-nylon	(2.5	(9.6	16.9	24.5
Other			3.3	5.6
Children's	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All-wool	78.7	75.6	62.0	50.3
Other	21.3	24.4	38.0	49.7
Infants'	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All-wool	85.0	75.0	73.5	64.9
Other	15.0	25.0	26.5	35.1

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

THE MOHAIR SITUATION

Production of mohair in the United States next year probably will be about the same as this year. Indications are that this year's clip is likely to be about 5 percent less than the 12.9 million pounds, grease basis, of 1951.

Federally-inspected slaughter of goats during January-August of this year was about one-fourth that of the same months of last year. Slaughter for the year probably will be the smallest since 1945 and small enough, relative to inventories, to maintain numbers. The number of goats

and mohair production in the United States have declined sharply since 1945, when a record of 22 million pounds of mohair was produced. Production in 1951 was about 42 percent of that of 1945.

On April 1, 1952, dealer and manufacturer holdings of mohair totaled 4.2 million pounds, scoured basis, compared with 3.1 million pounds a year earlier. Holdings increased about 59 thousand pounds during the second quarter.

Imports of mohair are usually small relative to domestic production and consumption. Imports this year have been a little lower than last year. During January-June, imports of mohair for consumption totaled 382 thousand pounds, clean basis, or 498 thousand pounds, actual weight. During the first half of last year, 849 thousand pounds, clean basis, or 1,108 thousand pounds, actual weight, were imported. Imports during calendar year 1951 amounted to 2,230 thousand pounds, clean basis, or 2,943 thousand pounds, actual weight.

Domestic woolen and worsted mills consumed mohair at an annual rate of about 12 million pounds, scoured basis, during the first half of this year. Consumption in 1951 amounted to 11.1 million pounds, scoured basis. Consumption during the first half of this year totaled 6.0 million pounds, about 10 percent more than during the same months of last year. Consumption on the worsted system, which made up 64 percent of the total, was up 11 percent, while consumption on the woolen system was up 8 percent.

Both consumption and prices of mohair in the United States are characterized by extreme fluctuations. This probably reflects the fact that mohair is a specialty fiber, demand for which is greatly affected by style and fashion changes.

The principal uses of mohair in the United States have been upholstery, drapery, and apparel fabrics and carpeting. In recent years, however, only limited quantities have been used in the manufacture of floor coverings and upholstery, which at one time probably accounted for half of the mohair used.

Since Korea, military requirements, especially for interlinings, have been a major component of the demand for mohair.

Prices received by growers for mohair this year are expected to average somewhat below the record national average of 118 cents for last year. Late in September, prices at local shipping points for the Texas fall clip were reported at 91.5 cents per pound, grease basis, for adult and 116.5 cents for kid hair, compared with 80-85 cents and 105-110 cents a year earlier. Prices at local shipping points for this year's Texas spring clip, however, were generally below those of the 1951 spring clip. Prices for the 1952 spring clip ranged between 80 and 110 cents for adult hair and 105 and 135 cents for kid hair. Prices for the 1951 spring clip ranged between 105 and 190 cents for adult hair and 130 and 230 cents for kid hair.

The average support price under the 1952 program is 57.2 cents per pound, grease basis, 75 percent of the March 15, 1952, parity price for mohair of 76.3 cents per pound. This is the third year during which price support has been made available for mohair. No mohair was acquired under either the 1950 or 1951 programs. It is unlikely that any will be acquired under the current program.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR MOHAIR

Item	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds
				SUPPLIES AND CONSUMPTION					
Production (grease basis) 1/	20,467	22,008	19,282	18,225	15,972	12,959	13,245	12,888	
Reported stocks April 1 (scoured basis) 2/	6,554	9,706	12,425	9,808	11,120	11,802	7,706	3,080	4,225
Imports for consumption (clean content) 3/	6,673	314	906	433	143	45	1,601	2,230	
Mill consumption (scoured basis) 4/	15,589	13,186	19,227	14,681	9,478	15,149	17,188	11,067	
				PRICES					
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Prices received by farmers (grease basis) 5/	60.1	55.3	61.1	53.6	45.4	46.3	76.0	118.0	
Parity price 6/	46.2	47.0	52.5	63.2	68.2	66.6	67.6	72.3	
Boston market prices (grease basis, Texas sorted)									
40's	120.0	118.5	120.0	142.2	139.1	137.9	167.3	257.8	
36's	110.0	108.5	108.6	128.7	111.3	108.0	150.4	242.0	
32's	95.0	93.5	95.0	113.9	94.2	92.1	126.5	220.0	
26's	69.0	66.0	68.5	73.5	62.8	60.0	96.6	172.1	
22's	59.0	56.0	58.2	67.8	52.8	49.6	87.1	152.5	
18's	50.0	48.5	48.6	53.7	41.4	40.1	79.5	144.0	

1/ Production in 7 leading States (Arizona, California, Missouri, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, and Utah).
2/ Includes mohair held on consignment, foreign mohair held in bond, and mohair in process of manufacture up to the carding operation but excludes mohair held for the account of or by growers.
3/ Includes only mohair not advanced in any manner or by any process of manufacture beyond washed, scoured, or carbonized condition.
4/ Consumption of mohair, tops, noils, etc. for the spinning of yarn (except carpet) on the woolen and worsted systems.
5/ Weighted average.
6/ Parity prices for mohair through 1949 are computed from the standard formula in effect prior to January 1, 1950 and are based on index of prices paid, interest, and taxes as revised January 1950. Parity prices beginning 1950 are effective parity as currently published. Annual prices are simple averages of monthly data.

Compiled from official sources.

Statistical Summary of Domestic Wool Outlook

Item	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952 2/
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
					SUPPLIES				
Production (grease)	424.0	378.5	342.2	308.0	278.4	248.5	247.8	250.4	260
Shorn	358.5	308.0	280.9	251.4	231.8	212.9	215.4	225.5	229.8
Pulled	65.5	70.5	61.3	56.6	46.6	35.6	32.4	24.9	
Reported stocks, April 1 2/									
(Scoured basis)									
Apparel wool	109.2	349.5	421.4	404.2	346.5	199.3	143.2	130.2	130.6
Privately owned	109.2	188.3	225.5	210.8	207.2	132.6	126.3	130.2	130.6
Domestic wool	76.6	34.4	36.0	51.2	76.9	57.7	55.4	35.6	55.6
Foreign wool	32.6	153.9	189.5	159.6	130.3	74.9	70.9	94.6	75.0
Government owned	109.2	161.2	195.9	193.4	139.3	66.7	16.9		
Domestic (CCC)		125.6	195.9	193.4	139.3	66.7	16.9		
Foreign (DSC)		35.6							
Carpet wool, Foreign only	29.9	48.5	70.1	93.5	82.7	62.0	54.5	45.0	34.1
Imports for consumption									
(Actual weight)									
Dutiable (apparel) 3/	90.4	675.7	811.9	438.8	416.3	262.3	402.0	430.6	345-385
Finer than 40's 3/	66.7	634.4	740.7	400.2	391.0	248.1	379.1	403.0	
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	8.1	3.0	2.8	1.2	0.7	0.8	2.5	2.8	
Other not finer than 40's	15.6	38.3	68.4	37.4	24.6	13.4	20.4	24.8	
Duty-free (carpet)	133.7	132.0	242.2	202.3	341.3	172.5	315.1	126.1	135-175
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	129.6	76.6	123.0	110.9	160.0	85.9	163.2	83.1	
Other not finer than 40's	4.1	55.4	119.2	91.4	181.3	86.6	151.9	43.0	
(Clean content)									
Dutiable (apparel) 3/	56.0	418.0	473.0	259.3	246.2	154.9	250.1	272.0	225-250
Finer than 40's 3/	39.7	389.8	425.7	234.0	229.5	145.6	234.7	254.0	
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	5.7	2.0	2.0	1.0	0.4	0.5	1.7	1.8	
Other not finer than 40's	10.6	26.2	45.3	24.3	16.3	8.8	13.7	16.2	
Duty-free (carpet)	95.9	91.3	170.0	140.0	232.8	117.6	216.7	89.2	100-125
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	93.1	51.1	85.9	77.2	112.0	61.1	115.1	61.6	
Other not finer than 40's	2.8	40.2	84.1	62.8	120.8	56.5	101.6	27.6	
					CONSUMPTION				
Mill consumption (scoured basis)									
Apparel (domestic and duty-paid foreign) 4/	281.1	589.2	609.6	525.9	485.2	339.0	436.9	382.1	325-375
Carpet (duty-free foreign) 4/	96.0	55.9	127.9	172.3	207.9	161.4	197.9	102.0	110-125
Fabric production									
(Million linear yards)									
Government orders	5/	6/	1.0	10.1	11.1	17.2	10.1	103.9	
Men's and boys' wear	5/	204.2	)481.7	222.6	197.1	142.1	174.5	105.1	
Women's and children's wear	5/	141.4	)	179.1	194.0	165.4	174.3	107.4	
Other apparel fabrics	5/	55.8	41.5	36.6	32.1	26.5	0	0	
Total apparel fabrics	5/	401.4	524.2	448.4	434.3	351.2	358.9	316.4	
Blankets	5/	80.2	48.5	29.2	21.4	22.5	19.1	31.4	
Other nonapparel	5/	11.8	31.0	38.2	41.9	40.7	50.5	27.6	
Total woven fabrics	5/	493.4	603.7	515.8	497.6	414.4	428.5	375.4	
					PRICES				
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Prices received by farmers 7/	23.9	41.9	42.3	41.9	48.7	49.3	57.3	99.5	52-55
Parity price 8/	23.3	31.3	34.9	42.0	45.4	44.4	51.5	56.5	60-61
Farm as percentage of parity	102	134	120	99	103	111	116	157	
Boston market prices:									
Domestic wool (clean basis)									
Territory									
64's, 70's, 80's, staple	84.4	117.7	102.6	124.2	164.6	166.4	199.2	270.5	160-170
56's, combing	71.9	103.5	91.4	107.0	107.6	112.8	151.0	215.2	125-130
Bright fleece									
64's, 70's, 80's, delaine	84.2	118.4	104.4	128.1	166.2	169.3	200.8	270.0	160-170
56's, combing	68.2	103.4	90.0	103.5	101.7	104.3	140.8	205.4	110-120
Foreign wool, excluding duty									
Australian (clean basis)									
64's, 70's, topmaking	58.7	75.2	76.1	102.9	159.9	170.3	198.7	259.1	140-150
Montevideo (grease basis)									
56's (1's)	30.4	42.7	42.8	48.9	68.5	68.2	90.0	142.6	105-115
50's (2's)	28.5	42.7	42.6	47.6	61.8	60.2	81.2	131.3	95-105

1/ Preliminary estimates as of October 1.
2/ Includes wool held on consignment, wool in process of manufacture up to the carding operation and wool held in bond, but excludes wool held by the Commodity Credit Corporation for the Department of Defense and wool held by or for the account of growers.
3/ Includes a small quantity of carbonized wool which was not reported by class and grade, and excludes wool entered free as an act of international courtesy.
4/ For 1935-41 inclusive, Donskoi, Smyrna, and similar wools without merino or English blood are reported as carpet wool and all other wools, both free and dutiable, are reported as apparel wool; beginning 1942, all duty-free wools are reported as carpet wool and all dutiable wools are reported as apparel wool. Includes consumption on the cotton and other systems of spinning prior to 1946 and in batting and felt manufactures prior to 1947; for 1947 and later years includes only consumption on the woolen and worsted systems. Prior to 1942, wool was considered as consumed when carded or otherwise advanced beyond scouring or raw stock dyeing; beginning January 1942, wool was considered as consumed (1) on the woolen system when laid in mixes and (2) on the worsted system when entering scouring bowls; beginning August 1948, consumption on the worsted system is taken as the sum of top and noil production.
5/ Not available.
6/ Not reported separately.
7/ Weighted average, grease basis.
8/ Parity prices for wool through 1949 are computed from the standard formula in effect prior to January 1, 1950, and are based on index of prices paid, interest, and taxes as revised January 1950. Parity prices beginning January 1950 are effective parity as currently published.

Compiled from official sources.